

Regular Council Meeting January 12th, 2004

Mayor Buckman called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. Members Present: Mayor Buckman , Jay Harrison, Terry Marsh, Janice Brasher and Ed Carmona.

Agenda Item #2 – Approval of 1/12/04 Agenda

Councilman Carmona requested that Water/Sewer Rate Increase Recommendations be added to the agenda as item #10. Motion by Marsh to approve agenda with item #10 added, second by Carmona, motion carried.

Agenda Item #3 – Approval of Consent Items

Motion by Carmona to approve consent items, second by Marsh, motion carried.

Agenda Item #4 – Reports

Planning & Zoning Commissioner Ed Carmona reported that the Planning & Zoning Committee has been discussing whether or not a citizen would need a permit to build a deck, fence or small outbuilding. They will continue their discussion at the February 2nd meeting. The committee has also been discussing producing a brochure for the City of Ozawkie, which would include useful information for citizens. The Planning & Zoning Commission would like to inform everyone that there is still an opening to sit on the committee for anyone who is outside the corporate limits of the City of Ozawkie, but within 3 miles of the City. The Commission meets once a month for about an hour. Anyone who has an interest in the zoning of the City is asked to contact the Ozawkie City Office at 876-2550

Street Commissioner Marsh

Street Commissioner Terry marsh reported that he has stayed in touch with A & W Asphalt about doing the streets, and they will be here to do them as soon as we have 5 consecutive days of fifty degree temperatures or higher.

Utility Commissioner Harrison

Nothing to report.

Parks Commissioner Scott

Nothing to report.

Law Enforcement Commissioner Brasher

A 6 month report will be ready for the next Council Meeting.

Governmental Affairs

Nothing to report.

Tree Board

Nothing to report.

City Maintenance

Mayor Buckman informed council that the Kansas Rural Water Conference would be held in Wichita, KS in March and that it would be his recommendation for both City Engineer Ron Thomas and Bob Shuenight to attend. Mayor Buckman reported that both would be obtaining their Wastewater and Water Certification's over the course of the next year. This will provide the City with two certified operators. Mayor Buckman reported that the cost to obtain this certification to the City was negligible and that the City would benefit from having 2 certified operators. Council echoed their approval of this dual certification and encouraged attendance at the March conference. Currently, the City has an Operator- In -Training Certificate from KDHE for both Water and Wastewater. Mr. Schuenight reported that someone had caused damage to the sewer main on the lagoon road. Access to the road is now restricted.

City Clerk

Mayor Buckman announced that the Ozawkie City Office will be extending its hours to Mondays 11am to 6pm and Tuesdays through Fridays 8am to 1pm. This will be in effect Monday, January 19th, 2004. The reason for

the extended hours being that the Mayor and Council Member's would like to make it more convenient for all citizens to visit the City Office, if need be.

Agenda Item #5 – Indian Ridge Agreement – Kramer

Council reviewed a letter sent by Kramer stating that a decision needs to be made soon regarding the agreement with Indian Ridge.

Agenda Item #6 – Indian Ridge Agreement - Lowry

Council discussed the revised Indian Ridge Agreement that was discussed at the December Meeting. Motion by Marsh to accept the revised agreement which included a one time impact fee payable to the city of \$295,000 for the utilization of the City's wastewater treatment facility by the Indian Ridge Development. Second by Carmona, motion carried.

Agenda Item #7 –Corps of Engineer Property Renewal

Discussion took place regarding a letter sent by the Corps of Engineer's stating that the City needs to renew their lease with the Corpse with the Corpse of Engineer for the land within the City. The lease expires in May. Several questions about the lease were raised. City Clerk Zimmerman agreed to obtain a copy of the existing lease and address council questions prior to February's meeting so that action could be taken at that time.

Agenda Item #8 – Trash Administrative Fee

Discussion took place regarding an administrative fee added to bi-monthly utility bills that would compensate the City for the collection of S.M. Ball's Waste disposal fees. It was agreed that this should be paid by S.M. Ball and not the citizens and that if asked to pay, Mr. Ball would ultimately pass this on the form of higher fees for his services. No action was taken.

Agenda Item #9 – Stop/Yield Sign Review

Councilman Marsh produced 2 plans to the Council for review regarding stop and yield signs within the City along with estimated costs to implement both plans. Plan 1 is Marsh's "Maximum Plan" which includes replacement of 14 yield signs with stop signs and adding 18 new yield signs at an estimated cost of \$1,020. Plan 2 is Marsh's "Minimum Plan" which would require replacing 6 yield signs with stop signs and adding 5 new yield signs at an estimated cost of \$500. Councilman Marsh reiterated that through his past experience in law enforcement that it was his opinion that signage improvements needed to be made in order to improve safety on the streets and to protect the City against potential liability for not posting adequate signage. Councilman Carmona indicated that his concerns over cost had been mitigated. Other members of Council were receptive to reviewing the plans further. Councilman Marsh was also open to other suggestions. Mayor Buckman thanked Councilman Marsh for his work on this project but again expressed his concerns about community aesthetics if several new signs were added. Councilman Marsh stated that smaller signs could be utilized which could help mitigate these concerns. It was agreed that Council would review these plans further and that discussion would continue at the next council meeting.

Agenda Item #10 – Water/Sewer Rate Increase Recommendations

Councilman Carmona provided the Council with 2 Water/Sewer Rate Proposals. Discussion took place regarding these proposals. Proposal number one would change water rates to a minimum of \$16.00 for the first 5,000 gallons, as opposed to the first 8,000 gallons currently in place, and raise sewer rates to \$7.00 a month as opposed to \$6.00 a month currently. Proposal number 2 would raise the water rates to \$18.00 for the first 5,000 gallons and \$3.00 for each additional 1,000 gallons, as opposed to \$2.00 for each additional 1,000 gallons, and the sewer rates to \$7.50 a month. Proposal number 1 will produce a projected additional annual revenue of \$12,000 while proposal number 2 is projected to produce additional annual revenue of \$16,500. Councilman Marsh reported that even with the increase in proposal number 2, the City of Ozawkie's rates are still exceptionally lower than other surrounding cities. Mayor Buckman noted that City Sewer and Water rates were raised approximately 2 years ago. Prior to that raise the city had been operating at a loss in producing water for its citizens. The rate increase 2 years ago essentially, provided for the City to operate at break-even levels on water production. Mayor Buckman stated a further rate increase would allow the City to generate a profit on the production of water which is critical for meeting future repairs and improvements necessary to keep the excellent supply of water flowing to the City. Further discussion will take place at the February 9th meeting.

There being no further business before the Council, Motion by Carmona to adjourn, second by Brasher, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:45p.m.